

SHREVEPORT FIRE DEPARTMENT

# FlashPoint

Volume 1 Number 3

*To Protect and Preserve Life, Property and the Environment*

Fall 2001



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LA's Busiest Fire  
Station

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# IN MEMORY



Firefighters and police officers from Shreveport and surrounding areas prepare to march into the Municipal Auditorium for a memorial service for fallen New York City firefighters, law enforcement officers, and EMS workers of the September 11 terrorist attacks.

## September 11 attacks leave fire service resolved to fulfill mission

By now, the events of September 11, 2001, have been etched deep into our memory. There is no need to review the horrific events that transpired that day in New York City or Washington, D.C., only to reflect on the aftermath of what they have left behind. America and her freedoms, that just yesterday seemed so carefree, are today being held onto tightly, defended fiercely, and thought about with every passing moment. Much too, the nations fire services are reevaluating their new role in this first war of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and how they can prepare, carry out, and evaluate the challenges that lie ahead.

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# Fire Department Unveils New Truck and Renovated Children's Fire Safety House

# Donations make truck possible

On August 20 the department held a ceremony at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament School, 2932 Murphy Street, to show off their newly purchased 1993 International 5-speed diesel and recently renovated Children's Fire Safety House. The truck will be used to pull the Safety House to area schools and special events where fire prevention education programs are conducted.

The truck was purchased through a \$12,000 donation from Allstate Insurance Company. Local agent Don Williams was instrumental in securing the donation and the purchase of the truck for the

department. In order to meet the spending limits of the donation, the dealership where the truck was purchased, Twin State Trucks Inc., lowered the vehicle's original price from \$18,000 to \$12,000. Additionally, Diz Collision and Repair did the body work and painting at no cost.

The Children's Fire Safety House is a 30 foot long, two-story, self-contained house that is instrumental in letting children experience the simulated dangers of smoke and the importance of fire safety.

More than 6,000 school children go through the house each year, learning the merits of smoke detector use, family escape plans, and the technique of "Stop, Drop, and Roll." The house, built in 1989, has undergone a complete renovation, including a red and white paint job, matching that of the truck. **K**



Fire Chief Kelvin Cochran presents (left to right) Charles Kihneman of Twin State Trucks, Emit Dizadare of Diz Collision and Body Works, and Ginger Falcon and agent Don Williams from Allstate Insurance with appreciation plaques for their assistance in purchasing and renovating the Department's new truck to pull the Children's Fire Safety House.



# Cedar Grove Station Receives New Rescue Truck

# State-of-the-Art vehicle built by Ferrara  
by Captain Tom Self

August 29 of this year the Shreveport Fire Department put a new state-of-the-art rescue truck into service at its Cedar Grove Station No. 9. The new heavy rescue truck, designed by Ferrara Fire Apparatus of Holden, Louisiana, replaces a 1993 International truck with over 120,000 miles.

The rescue truck was built on a Spartan fire truck chassis, with the body being constructed by a process referred to as "all extruded aluminum body." Both of these are firsts for the department. The truck has a 20-inch raised roof over the cab area, which allows for an overall interior height of 75 inches. The cab seats six and for greater expediency in gathering medical equipment, has an EMS compartment built in interiorly. There are an additional two seats in the command center, which features electrical outlets and bookcases that have overlaid sliding glass doors.

Additional features of the new truck include a 24 slot SCBA bottle rack and an electric Hurst Tool truck-mounted power unit. The Hurst unit has two 100-foot hose reels as well as a portable power unit to enhance off-road usability.

Four large upper compartments are accessible by an exterior rear-entry staircase. Located on the roof is the command light tower, with six 1500-watt bulbs. After presenting Ferrara with some past problems with shelving, they installed extra-heavy duty bracing under all compartments and constructed all exterior compartment shelves with 3/16 inch aluminum.

Ferrara Fire Apparatus was eager to get their product introduced into North Louisiana, and they made that possible by presenting the lowest bid. Chris Ferrara and the employees of Ferrara were a pleasure to work with. A special thank you to Chief Simons and Ferrara sales representative Shane Delany, for all the



Rescue 9 sits parked outside the station at West 70<sup>th</sup> Street and St. Vincent Avenue waiting for the next call.

hard work they put into this project. **K** Captain Self is a hazardous material technician and the company officer on Rescue 9-B shift.

# 800 MHZ Radio System Goes On-Line

On October 15 Caddo Parish Communications District 1 switched over to a new 800 MHZ radio system that, for all intents and purposes, changed the way the fire department and other agencies associated with the district communicate.

The new system allows the department the advantage of having several operational tactical channels for exclusive communications on the scene of major emergency incidents. There are a number of extra channels that also allow divisions such as Training, Fire Prevention, and Maintenance their own separate channel for inter-radio communications. This feature cuts down on the amount of radio traffic on the operations channel and allows for better two-way communication between the sender and receiver of the radio message.

With the introduction of the new system, the fire department now has the opportunity to communicate directly to other emergency and law enforcement agencies that may be responding to or are currently at the same incident. According to Chief of Communications Willis Carter, this advantage is instrumental in the ability to maintain the cohesiveness of the Incident Command Structure. "When there are multiple agencies involved on the same incident, the advantage that the 800 MHZ system provides in allowing the use of a single channel by multiple agencies or the ability to raise those agencies on a channel from any radio is key to the success of a multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional or unified command situation." said Carter. **K**

# Portal - Funny Name; Great System

# Internet System provides up to date access to event sheet  
by Arthur Meacham

What's going on in Shreveport and Caddo Parish right now? Everyone is interested in local news events. Emergency events – fire, police and EMS – are a high priority. What were those sirens we just heard? Did I hear gun shots or was that fire works?

In the past, a radio scanner could be used to pick up or listen to emergency calls being dispatched, but in the very near future the new parish wide 800MHz trunked radio system will prevent most scanners from listening to emergency frequencies. In order to provide the citizens of Caddo Parish with emergency information in a timely manner, the Caddo Parish 9-1-1 Communications District is developing an Internet solution called Portal.

Using Portal, a new product from Oracle software, the Emergency Communications Center will be able to display pertinent information pertaining to current activities right on the Internet. Portal creates a view into the database that will provide event information such as location and a brief description of each event. Tabbed screens will allow the viewer to select all agencies or focus on one specific agency. Simplicity and ease of use are criteria being maintained in development so that the end result will be a user-friendly product that anyone familiar with the Internet will be able to access and quickly learn. The Caddo Parish 9-1-1 portal will be a link off the Caddo911.com home page. Therefore, anyone with Internet access will be able to view the site. The projected date of completion is October, 2001.

**K** Arthur Meacham is the CAD Administrator for Caddo Parish Communications District 1 and can be reached at 318-675-2213

# Area Firefighters and Law Enforcement Officials Pay Tribute to Fallen

- Memorial service draws hundreds of uniformed personnel

In the days following the Tuesday, September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on New York City and Washington, D.C., firefighters across the nation watched and waited in stunned silence as the number of those who lost their lives grew into the thousands. We now know that included in those figures were some 340 Fire Department of New York City (FDNY) firefighters and 70 New York police officers.

Exactly two weeks following the terrorist attacks, on September 25, the Shreveport Fire and Police Departments along with other regional fire and law enforcement agencies paid their last respects to their fallen brothers and sisters in a Memorial Service at Shreveport's Municipal Auditorium.

Attended by more than 350 uniformed personnel, the service began with a processional march that started on Cotton Street behind Central Fire Station. Led by a corps of bagpipes playing Amazing Grace, row after row of firefighters and law enforcement officers marched their way along Elvis Presley Boulevard to the front of the auditorium. After a momentary pause, two by two, the marchers turned and walked beneath two crossed aerial ladders, holding a 50 foot American flag, and into the auditorium.

After the posting of the colors by a multi-agency honor guard, Caddo Parish Sheriff Steve Prator led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and was followed by Shreveport Police Officer Kim Price's acappella rendition of the National Anthem.

Shreveport Mayor Keith Hightower addressed the audience and spoke of the gratitude and admiration the city had for the men and women of the fire and police services. Mayor George Dement of Bossier City also spoke, commending the work of firefighters and law enforcement officials.

Between speakers, the Centenary Choir and Shreveport Symphony performed spiritual, eclectic pieces that allowed the audience time for reflection and prayer. Following moving addresses by Shreveport Fire Chief Kelvin Cochran and Police Chief Jim Roberts, where members and family of their respective professions were recognized, the main message of prayer, faith, country, and family was delivered by Summer Grove Pastor Dr. Rod Masteller.

The service concluded much like it began. After the symbolic ringing of the fire bell for those firefighters lost, and a 21 gun salute remembering the fallen law enforcement officers, the bagpipes began and faded away as a lone trumpet played taps. As those in attendance walked away following the service it was obvious that an innocence had been lost, a mission had been redefined, and a new day had dawned for America's fire and police services and that these were the men and women who would bravely face it. K



Shreveport Mayor Keith Hightower addresses the audience



The Centenary Choir and Shreveport Symphony perform during Memorial service



Fire and police vehicles were prominently displayed outside of the Memorial service

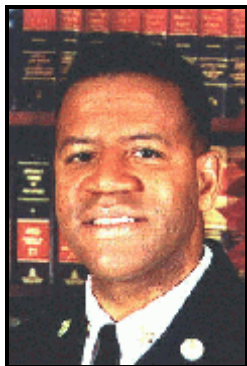


# Chief's Column

## America's Dream Continues...

The Shreveport Fire Department is on a trek of having the most productive year in its 164 year history. Our success is directly attributed to the effective leadership of our administrative chiefs and staff, our highly professional and dedicated workforce, effective labor/management relations and continuous strong support from Mayor Keith Hightower.

**Fire Chief**



The 46<sup>th</sup> Basic Training Class has graduated, increasing our staffing levels by 26 firefighters. Planning is currently underway to start another class of 15 recruits on January 1, 2002. Our paramedic class is progressing as scheduled and will be returning back to the fire line by February 2002. We will begin another class of 15 to 20 paramedics by May 2002.

Station renovation and improvement projects are ongoing. Washer/dryers, hands-free sinks, and treadmills have been purchased and installed in all stations. We are expecting delivery of the final round of day room chairs for the five remaining stations any day. Replacement of damaged turn-out gear lockers will begin early in the month of November. Station remodeling and

driveway repairs are in varying stages of production. Station Eight is a top priority. The process has begun for the selection of a vendor for our exhaust removal systems. Installations should be underway by the beginning of the new year.

On July 21, 2001, the citizens affirmed their trust in city government by passing a 70 million dollar bond. Eight million has been allocated to the Shreveport Fire Department. Our major improvements will include relocation of Central Fire Station, Station Thirteen, adding Station Twenty Two, a new fire maintenance facility, replacement of four engine companies, and station renovations. You can expect to see progress on all these projects before the year's end.

The 2002 budget has been approved. Improvements for fiscal year 2002 shall include: 11 additional firefighter positions (because of retirements, there will be two basic classes), one additional Fire Inspector, an increase in clothing allowance, education incentive pay, and vehicle replacements including medic units, district cars and staff vehicles.

September 11, 2001 has changed our lives forever. Out of the great tragedy to our country and great sacrifice to our brothers in New York City will come great triumph. We will be a stronger, more united nation. We will be a stronger and united profession. We are even more determined to "insure domestic tranquility" and "Promote the general welfare" according to the charge of our great Preamble of the United States. Many changes will take place to strengthen our resolve as our country's first line of defense in mitigation of terrorist attacks.

As firefighters, we must continue to live the "American Dream." As Americans, we must not allow the September 11<sup>th</sup> tragedy to transform "The land of the free and the home of the brave" into "The land of bondage and the home of the fearful." Remember: Serving our citizens must continue to have precedence over our self-interests. Serving one another must be our bond and commitment. Remember, always do more than people expect us to do. **K**

## Fire Chief's Address Inspirational

In what would be considered a short presentation even by his own standards, Shreveport Fire Chief Kelvin Cochran delivered a stirring and moving address to the hundreds that attended the September 25 New York City Fire and Police Memorial held at Municipal Auditorium. In what is sure to be part of the progressive fire chief's legacy, the following is a portion of that address -

*The events of September 11 are both unimaginable and indescribable. As Americans we are all still stunned and numb. We can still see the unbelievable images in our mind - the first tower burning; the attack of the second plane; the collapse of one, then the other tower.*

*Five-thousand civilians, 70 police officers, and 350 firefighters. Firefighters and police officers played the most significant role and paid the most significant price.*

*Doing what we have been called to do: saving lives; serving and protecting.*



***"The greatest honor in our profession is not dying together as brothers and sisters. The greatest honor in our profession is living together as brothers and sisters"***

Shreveport Fire Chief Kelvin Cochran

*On behalf of the men and women of the Shreveport Fire Department and every firefighter in America - our hearts are heavy and broken at the great loss of life. But we are not discouraged; our spirits are not weakened; our vigilance has not been diluted. We are more determined than ever to ensure domestic tranquility and promote the general welfare, in accordance with the great preamble of the United States Constitution.*

*In the fire service there is great honor in dying in the line of duty. The honor is even greater when we die with our brothers and sisters. But I have heard a great cry coming from the millions of tons of rubble from our brothers and sisters who have given their lives. The greatest honor in our profession is not dying together as brother and sister. The greatest honor in our profession is living together as brother and sisters.*

*God bless firefighters and law enforcement officers and God bless America. **K***

# FRONT LINE HEADLINES

## SFD To Graduate 13 from Latest Citizen's Fire Academy

July 16 - The Shreveport Fire Department will graduate thirteen participants from their recent Citizen's Fire Academy tomorrow at their Fire Training Academy, located at 6440 Greenwood Road.

The graduation ceremony, scheduled to begin at 6:00 p.m. in the auditorium, is the culmination of an exciting and challenging 10 weeks, where ordinary citizens, meeting once a week for three hours, are introduced to a variety of fire and rescue techniques including CPR, basic first aid, rappelling, live fire burns, and equipment operations.

The following is a list of graduates: Deena Babcock, Shannon Bethany, Harold Carver, Peaches Hyatt, Alise Johnson, Clarence Jones, Wendy Kinsey, Patrick McDuffey, Dusty Patterson, Randy Peterson, Suzanne Strickland, Betty Stutts, and Louis A. Stutts.

## Two-Alarm Allendale Fire Believed to Have Been Set

August 6 - Shreveport fire investigators believe that a fire yesterday in the 1900 block of Laurel Street in the city's Allendale neighborhood that destroyed two homes and damaged three others, may have been set by juveniles seen in the area prior to the blaze.

The fire department received the first call reporting a single house fire at 5:57 p.m. When responding companies from the nearby Milam Street and Central fire stations converged on what was actually two homes totally involved in flames and several others beginning to smolder, officials called for a second-alarm.

The second-alarm sent more resources in terms of firefighters and equipment to the scene of what turned out to be a conflagration of smoke and flames.

Officials focused their attention on saving other adjacent structures being threatened by the fire. Fire crews rushed to protect those homes that were just beginning to burn or were facing exposure to the extreme heat and flames. Additionally, a water curtain from an elevated ladder truck provided coverage to those homes to the west and extinguished two structures, also vacant, that were beginning to burn.

As firefighters rotated out and fought on through the early evening hours, flames turned to heavy smoke as commanders of the incident finally listed it as under control just after 8:00 p.m. No firefighters were injured although

several were worn and exhausted by the extremely hot and humid conditions of yesterday's weather.

## Woman in Critical Condition After Morning Fire

August 18 - A Shreveport woman remains in critical condition at LSUHSC this afternoon after an early morning fire ravaged her Werner Park home. The woman sustained second and third degree burns to more than 90 percent of her body as she ran through the home at 5018 Werner Avenue in an attempt to escape the fire. Her husband, and their two children, girls ages 16 and 9, were able to escape relatively unharmed out of a front bedroom window.

Fire investigators say that the family arrived home between 3 and 3:30 a.m. and decided to fry some chicken on the kitchen stove. At some point he went to his bedroom and fell asleep with his wife.

When firefighters arrived at the home at 4:09 a.m., flames were rolling out of the front door and windows and over the porch, said Captain Kevin Chatelain. Firefighters and paramedics immediately began treating the woman as others hurried to extinguish the blaze. It took crews less than 10 minutes to bring the fire under control. The woman was rushed to the Burn Treatment Center at LSUHSC.

There was a smoke detector in the home but the battery had been removed. The family had removed it because it kept going off when they cooked.

## Parachutist Recovering From Injuries Sustained in Weekend Accident

September 10 - A Bossier City man is recovering at LSUHSC this morning from injuries he received this weekend during a routine parachute jump. Jason Youngblood, 21, was jumping from a plane owned by Air One Aviation over the Downtown Airport when he had a "hard landed" on the airport's runway. The accident happened Sunday around 4:17 p.m.

Downtown Airport official Les Wallace, the Controller in Charge, said that the tower noticed Youngblood having trouble when he did several unusual and erratic maneuvers over the airport before coming straight down for the last 100 feet or so.

Firefighters and paramedics rushed to the scene after a report from the tower that a

parachutist was down and not moving on airport runway 14/32.

When crews assessed Youngblood he was conscious, complaining of low back pain and suffering from a possible concussion. He was placed in a spinal package including a c-collar and backboard before being moved to the ambulance for transport to LSUHSC where he was later admitted.

## Police Officers to Receive Commendation from Fire Chief

Oct. 1 - Three Shreveport police officers who rescued three children from their burning home over the weekend will receive commendations from Fire Chief Kelvin Cochran tomorrow at his Central Fire Station office, 801 Crockett Street, at 3:00 p.m. Police officers Tim Gray, Jeff Nelson, and Trey Robinson were on their way to a 911 hang up call on Clark Boulevard when the dispatcher told them to disregard and respond to a house fire with children believed inside at 2929 Meadow Street.

When the officers arrived at the home, frantic neighbors were screaming that there were children in the house. The carport and storage area of the home were already engulfed in flames when the officers made their way to a side door to gain entry. The officers then separated, two going down the right side of the residence and one down the left. In back bedrooms, officer Robinson found a still sleeping 8 year-old, while Gray and Nelson found an 11-year-old. All were able to escape without injury.

## Shreveport Man Dies in Apt. Fire

Oct. 2 - A Shreveport man died in an apartment fire last night behind the residence at 7102 Louise Street in South Shreveport. The fire was called in at 11:12 p.m. by the owner of the home after she noticed flames and smoke coming from the makeshift apartment in the backyard. When firefighters arrived, the entire structure was engulfed in flames.

Rescue workers fought flames and heavy smoke to enter through the back of the apartment, where they found the victim's body close to the door. Upon inspection, it appears that the man was aware of the fire and was making an aggressive attempt to escape through the rear door when he was overcome.

K

*Contributions for Front Line Headlines are excerpts from press releases issued by the Public Information Office and can be viewed in their entirety on the Department's web page: [www.shreveportfire.org](http://www.shreveportfire.org)*



# ON SCENE



## Car Overturms on I-220 Sends One to Hospital -

A Shreveport man had to be extricated from his vehicle by firefighters after hitting a concrete retaining wall, becoming airborne and landing upside down in the opposite lane of traffic on August 8. He sustained serious but not life threatening injuries.



## Man Dies in Interstate Collision

- A firefighter extinguishes what is left of a fire that took the life of a Texas man on July 8 after his vehicle was struck from the rear by an 18-wheeler and burst into flames along I-20. The driver of the truck escaped with only minor

# around the department

already this year they have raised \$13,043.

**Chad Burden** has recently completed the National Fire Academy's (NFA) Haz-Mat Site Operations course. **Captain Gary Cash** recently completed the NFA's Communications course. About the course, Cash said that "This is an opportunity that we should all take advantage of - the facility, the education, and the networking between fire departments." **District Chief Barry Lewis** recently completed the NFA's Executive Analysis over the summer saying that "It was a unique experience and that everyone should utilize the facility." **Chief Training Officer Randy Hood** participated in the U.S. Fire Administration/NFA Training Resource and Data Exchange (TRADE) meeting in August in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

**Jay Pierce, Chad Burden, Billy Lewis, and Michael Echols** have completed their required Haz-Mat classes in Holden, Louisiana at the LSU Fire Training School and are currently waiting to be scheduled for the State Maz-Mat Certification Test. The Department's "C" shift recently lost two of their district chiefs to retirement - **Chief Glen Benton** and **Chief Jerry Williford**, but welcomed back **Chief Barry Lewis**.

**Fire Driver Lisa Ivory** was selected by the Louisiana Burn Camp Association to represent the state at the National Burn Camp at Washington, D.C. but was unable to attend due to being called back to active duty. **Emergency Vehicle Technician Archie Watson** completed building a scent machine for training the department's K-9 Search and Rescue Team. The machine was built from a photo that **Captain Kerry Foster** supplied. After a few modifications the machine was tested out and worked great. The total cost was around \$600. **K Contributors** Ronnie Jordan, Gary Cash, and Henry Simons

At the September 25 City Council meeting, the Shreveport Fire Department was presented with an award for their faithful support of United Way. In 2000, the fire department raised a record \$8,000 -

## 2001 Promotions & Retirements

### To Asst. Chief of Training

Louis Johnson, August 6

### To Captain

Mike Lawson, August 16

Rhonda Svoboda, October 1

### Retirements

Cpt. Steve Lammons, 28 years of service

## New Additions

### 46<sup>th</sup> Basic Training Class Graduated Sept. 21

Tim Armond

Brandon Bounds

Jacqueline J. Bryant

Edward Carey

Chris Chadwick

Dennis Clark

Johann Cooke

Jason Curtis

Brad Dean

Randy Deavers

Lataris M. George

Drew Goebel

Britt Gunn

Sonya Hall

Jason Harley

Michael Hayes

Matt Head

George Hunt Jr.

Damon Johnson

Randall Johnson

Gregory Kennon Jr.

Aaron G. Naquin

Frank Nolte

Joshua Oden

## EDITORIAL

by Asst. Chief of Fire Prevention David Glass

### “What’s Next?”

Though few people think of the past incidents now, our country and what it represents have been the target of terrorists for many years. U.S. citizens, businesses, and government facilities have been attacked repeatedly, but almost always in another country. There have been occasional attacks within the borders of our nation for years, such as the Puerto Rican separatists firearms attack at the U.S. capitol in the 1950's and the anti-war bombings during the Vietnam War, but nothing that we have experienced begins to compare to the attack we saw September 11, 2001, “the day history changed.”

It wasn't until February, 1993, when the World Trade Center was bombed by international terrorists the first time that we no longer could view terrorism as “foreign” problem. In 1995 the Japanese cult Aum Shinri Kyo ratcheted up our fears of terrorism when they unleashed the deadly nerve agent Sarin on an unsuspecting Tokyo subway system, killing 12, but affecting over 5,000

innocent people. In April of that year, domestic terrorism hit us the hardest when the Murrah Building was bombed and 168 people died.

Terrorism has taken on a new dimension with the introduction of chemical, biological and radiological agents as weapons. Weapons that had only been used before during wars were now being used against civilians, thus the phrase “Weapons of Mass Destruction” (WMD) was born.

Increased terrorist activity around the world has been met with increases in federal, state, and local governments training emergency personnel about terrorism. Specialized equipment and increased intelligence gathering, designed to better protect us, have seemed to be less than effective in light of the last attack on the World Trade Center. Now we are all forced to more strongly consider the potential for attacks in our own community. Most certainly, other attacks will occur. Where and when are questions we must ask ourselves. Its time to be responsive to the world around us, not only reactive to what happens to us. Stay Safe. **K**

*Asst. Chief of Fire Prevention David Glass is a 23 year Department veteran and head of the Bureau's Arson Investigations and Bomb Task Force.*

**FlashPoint**®  
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Kelvin J. Cochran, Fire Chief

Editor & Publisher ....Brian A. Crawford

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FlashPoint welcomes questions or comments. For more information on the Shreveport Fire Department, please contact: 318/ 673-6652, email [brian.crawford@ci.shreveport.la.us](mailto:brian.crawford@ci.shreveport.la.us) or visit our web site at [www.shreveportfire.org](http://www.shreveportfire.org)

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**FlashPoint**

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# Firefighters “Fill the Boot” with \$27,0000 for New York City Firefighters

# Proceeds to go directly to FDNY firefighters widows and orphans fund

In an unprecedented move, prompted by numerous requests by citizens to raise money for the families of firefighters lost in the September 11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, the Shreveport Fire Department took to the streets on October 19 and 20 to “Fill the Boot” for the New York Firefighters Widows and Orphans Relief Fund. Traditionally reserved for their annual Muscular Dystrophy drive, the Fill the Boot campaign took on a new cause but not a new meaning, according to Fire Chief Kelvin Cochran. “Whether we are in the streets collecting for MDA or collecting for the widows and children of our fallen New York brothers and sisters, firefighters at intersections with a boot in their hand are synonymous with our profession helping people,” said Cochran

The firefighters posted at intersections throughout the city starting at 5:00 p.m. on Friday and solicited donations till around 6:00 p.m, collecting a whopping \$16,000 in one hour! Saturday saw another \$11,000 in donations come in for a total of \$27,000 for the two days. All the proceeds from the collections are going directly to the New York City Firefighters Widows and Orphans Fund. “Because we as firefighters have been overwhelmed by citizens wanting to know how they could help, we felt providing a direct avenue to the Widows and Orphans Relief was appropriate,” said Shreveport Firefighter Local 514 President Margene McCoy. **K**

## Louisiana’s Busiest Fire Station Here in Shreveport

Shreveport’s Cedar Grove Fire Station Number 9 was recently named Louisiana’s Busiest Fire Station for 2000, according to a national run survey conducted by *Firehouse Magazine*. The station, located at the intersection of West 70<sup>th</sup> and St. Vincent Avenue, houses four fire department response units: engine company, ladder truck company, district chief, and a rescue/hazardous material unit.

In September, Mayor Keith Hightower presented the firefighters at Station 9 with a plaque recognizing their state best 7,485 run incidents in 2000. The next closest fire station in the state was New Orleans’ Station 36 with 4,552 incidents.

Other SFD units listed in the survey: Nationally, Rescue 9 (pictured on pg. 3) was ranked 18<sup>th</sup> busiest rescue unit; Engine 9 was 66<sup>th</sup> busiest engine company; Truck 8 at the Fair Grounds station was listed at 160 for ladder companies; District Chief 4 was

the 67<sup>th</sup> busiest batallion chief; and for those fire departments that provide Emergency Medical Service (EMS), Medic 4 came in at 53<sup>rd</sup> for busiest ambulances in the country. **K**

visit us at [www.shreveportfire.org](http://www.shreveportfire.org)

**“There are no words to express the remorse that is felt because so many died so needlessly, senselessly, and innocently. There have been no words spoken, written, or sung that can describe the overwhelming feeling of honor, pride, loyalty, and dedication that all firefighters feel to have been professionally associated with those brave individuals of the Fire Department of New York, who that sunny September morning, answered their final call”.**